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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of:

NAZARENKO *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/599,594

Filed: June 22, 2000

For: **Primers and Methods for
Detection and Discrimination of
Nucleic Acids**

Confirmation No.:

Art Unit: 1655

Examiner: Fredman, J.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4980002/RWE/AGI

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Amendment And Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

*Hand Carry to
Examiner Jeffrey Fredman
Art Unit 1655*

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated July 24, 2001, (Paper No. 12), Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) A clean version of each replacement paragraph/section/claim along with clear instructions for entry;
- (B) Starting on a separate page, appropriate remarks and arguments. 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and MPEP 714; and
- (C) Starting on a separate page, a marked-up version entitled: "Version with markings to show changes made."

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of

this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Amendments

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-~~9~~, 23-~~46~~, and 48-~~55~~ without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter encompassed thereby. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter of these claims in one or more continuing or divisional applications.

Please add the following new claims:

56. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein said one or more oligonucleotides further comprise one or more detectable labels at or near their 3' and/or 5' termini.

57. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein said one or more oligonucleotides further comprise one or more detectable labels at or near their 3' and/or 5' termini.

58. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein said one or more oligonucleotides further comprise one or more detectable labels at or near their 3' and/or 5' termini.